

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a method for congestion control when setting up calls in a cellular CDMA-based communication system. A call setup request from a user equipment in a congested cell is prohibited by means of broadcasted call admission messages. However, the call admission information indicates permitted and/or restricted accesses for carrier frequencies and/or neighboured cells. Neighboured cells using the same carrier frequency as the congested cell are marked with a restricted access flag. Therefore, the user equipments in the congested cell will request for a call setup only in one of those neighbour cells without access restrictions. By this means, the user equipments will not contribute to the interference level in the congested cell.

Figure for publication: Figure 4